

Message Text

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ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INR-05

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FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1168

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 10705

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PFOR ET US

SUBJ: ANTI-CIA DEVELOPMENTS

REF: A. ADDIS ABABA 10527, B. ADDIS ABABA 10675

1. ALLEGED COLLABORATION BETWEEN CIA AND ETHIOPIAN PEOPLE'S
REVOLUTIONARY PARTY (EPRP) ONCE AGAIN APPEARED IN PRESS
MORNING OCT 1, THIS TIME SPECIFICALLY LINKING ASSASSINATION
ATTEMPT WITH CIA. SOURCE FOR LATEST ALLEGATION IS
STATEMENT ISSUED APPARENTLY IN ADDIS BY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF ETHIOPIAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION IN EUROPE (ESAE), WHICH
STATES IN PART "THE ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT IS PART OF A
LOT DRAWN UP A LONG TIME AGO BY MEMBERS OF THE ANARCHIST
GROUP IN CLOSE COLLABORATION WITH THE NOTORIOUS CIA
COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY GROUP. THEREFORE THE CRIME WAS NOT
COMMITTED UNDER THE SPUR OF THE MOMENT." STATEMENT
ALSO SAYS, "STEPS SHOULD BE TAKEN TO PREVENT THE
RECURRENCE OF COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY ATTEMPTS INSTEAD OF
FIGHTING PLOTTERS AFTER CRIMES ARE COMMITTED. MANY
OF THE FOREIGNERS WHO ARE COMING TO ETHIOPIA
POSING AS TOURISTS ARE ACTUALLY CIA AGENTS WHO CAME
HERE TO PERPETRATE THEIR COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY
ACTIVITIES. NECESSARY STEPS MUST BE TAKEN TO
KEEP THESE VICIOUS VISITORS UNDER STRICT SURVEILLANCE."

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(ESAE OBVIOUSLY TOOK THIS PARTICULAR CUE FROM ONE OF

THE PLACARDS CARRIED IN LAST SUNDAY'S DEMONSTRATION. ESAE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE COMPOSED OF ETHIOPIAN STUDENTS NOW IN EUROPE WHO SYMPATHETIC TO PMAC. THEY WERE SELECTED CAREFULLY BY PMAC AND BROUGHT TO ADDIS ABABA AT GOVT EXPENSE TO OBSERVE SECOND REVOLUTION DAY CELEBRATIONS AND CARRY WORD BACK TO EUROPE.)

2. THUS FAR THERE HAVE BEEN NO INCIDENTS INVOLVING AMERICANS THAT WE AWARE OF AS RESULT OF ANTI-CIA REFERENCES IN MEDIA. HOWEVER, IT CLEAR TO US THAT CAMPAIGN IS NOT LIKELY TO LET UP. EPMG ITSELF EXCEPT FOR ONE STATEMENT SEPT 15 HAS REFRAINED FROM OPEN IDENTIFICATION OF EPRP, ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT (NOT AT ALL), AND CIA, BUT IT QUITE CLEAR IT IS DOING NOTHING TO PREVENT CAMPAIGN FROM GOING ON VIA STATEMENTS FROM ORGANIZATIONS LETTERS FROM READERS, ETC. THAT CAMPAIGN MAY JUST BE WARMING UP IS INDICATED BY ANOTHER ARTICLE IN TODAY'S AMHARIC PRESS, EXPRESSING INDIGNATION THAT REACTIONARIES AND ANARCHISTS ARE MERELY BEING DETAINED AND THAT "FINAL REVOLUTIONARY MEASURES" ARE NOT BEING USED AGAINST THEM. WE MUST ASSUME THAT CAMPAIGN HAS EPMG BLESSING, EVEN THOUGH THEY MAY OFFICIALLY DENY IT.

3. IN OUR JUDGMENT, DEPT SHOULD TAKE THESE LATEST BLASTS INTO ACCOUNT IN FRAMING ITS INSTRUCTIONS IN REPLY TO OUR 10527, AND MAY WISH TO CONSIDER STRONGER LANGUAGE THAN I USED IN MY DEMARCHE TO FONMIN KIFLE WODAJO ON SEPT 20 (ADDIS 10401) WHICH OBVIOUSLY DIDN'T TAKE. IN VIEW OF CONTINUING AND INCREASINGLY NASTY NATURE OF CIA REFERENCES, HOWEVER, IF WE ARE TO MAKE ANOTHER PITCH HERE, I WOULD SUGGEST WE DO SO ASAP. TIENKEN

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